Jesus Does it All!

> **And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.**
> **Luke 22:31-34 (KJV)**

Remember how the loaves and fishes were multiplied when Jesus shared them? I believe the same thing occurs when we share the insights God gives us into His Word. Glory to God! There's a deep spiritual truth hidden in this exchange between Peter and Christ that I want to share.

Notice how Peter assures Christ that He has nothing to worry about because he is ready to endure any test? How often do we see this as an admirable trait? Sure, on the surface it may seem that Peter meant well by saying this. However besides bravado there's another word for what he is telling Christ. Pride! Jesus is trying to tell Peter that Satan is going to try him, but he dismisses Him! "I've got this" Peter is saying to Jesus." But Christ is telling Peter "No, I'VE got this!"

> **But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.**
> **Luke 22:32 (KJV)**

You see, Jesus was trying to tell Peter that He still had some work to do in his life. Peter spoke from his own fleshy heart. What is this conversion that Christ tells Peter of, salvation? Of course not! But Peter desperately needed to understand the simple lesson of **Philippians 4:13**

> **I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**
> **Philippians 4:13 (KJV)**

As we all know Peter goes on to fall flat on his face just as Christ foretold he would. You see, Peter needed to learn who is the potter and who is the clay. Now we all hope that we would never deny Christ in any way, after all scripture tells us if we deny Him before men He will deny us before His Heavenly Father (**Matthew 10:33 KJV**). But the fact of the matter is that everything we do is through Christ, not our own strength.

> **And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.**
> **Acts 4:7-10 (KJV)**

In the book of Acts we see that Peter has finally been 'converted' just as Jesus promised he would. He learned his lesson well and has given Jesus Christ all of the glory for healing. Peter foolishly said that he would go to prison and even death for Christ. I'm surprised He didn't rebuke Peter for this as He did in **Luke 4:8 (KJV)**. Why? Because Jesus came to the earth to die both for Peter's and all of our sins, not the other way around.

> **Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.**
> **2 Corinthians 3:3 (KJV)**

Sure, it is easy to be hard on Peter, he was by all accounts flawed on many levels. Denying Christ is a grave matter indeed, yet do we not in a sense deny Christ every time we give in to sin? The Law had to be fulfilled, but only Jesus was capable of doing it perfectly. Every one of us has broken the Law in some manner and inevitably will continue to do so until we shed these mortal bodies. But we are no longer under the Law, but grace. We are dead to the Law written in stone tablets and ink (**2 Corinthians 3:3 KJV**). How? The Law is written in our hearts by the presence within it of the Holy Spirit!

Another way to deny Christ is to attempt to keep the Law after He kept it perfectly for all mankind. We don't need to follow archaic rituals or learn Hebrew to follow the Law anymore, because if we break it the Holy Spirit in us will immediately convict us. That is why Hebrew Roots and Law keeping are such damnable heresies. It is for people devoid of the Holy Spirit and His power to convict us of all sin against God. And because Jesus kept the Law perfectly for all mankind, to try and keep it yourself is to spit on His cross and reject His sacrifice for us!

> **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**
> **Hebrews 4:15-16 (KJV)**

The only way to resolve our penchant for breaking God's Law is repentance, and this we must do as often as we sin. Some foolishly argue that we cannot possibly remember all of our sins therefore it is impossible to repent of them all. The simple answer to that is that it is the job of the Holy Spirit to convict us of sin, not our carnal memories. Some heretical pastors teach that we no longer have to repent for our sins using the argument that it would mean we lose our salvation every time we sin. However it doesn't work like that. Our salvation may only become lost when we harden our hearts towards God and sin continually, no longer caring that it displeases Him. That is the Christian whose conscience has become seared as with a hot iron spoken of in 1 Timothy 4 (KJV).